

In The Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5 as follows:

This application is related to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/814,319, entitled "Method And System For Providing A Secure Peer-To-Peer File Delivery Network" (2030P), filed on the same date as the present application.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 9 as follows:

Streaming media has the disadvantages of not working with all file types and is expensive because providers must purchase different software for the various streaming media standards. Streaming media also has not proven to be a reliable transfer method. And FTP file transfers also have has disadvantages, which include being technically challenging to most users, and suffering from inefficient file transfers. There are other solutions for distributing content, but they are usually proprietary and do not scale well.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 11 as follows:

Accordingly, what is needed is a public peer network for securely and reliably delivering files. The network should be reliable reliably and secure enough to support delivery of content on a fee and non-fee basis, the network should reduce transfer costs, and allow for the policing and enforcements of copyrights. The present invention addresses such needs.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 8 as follows:

Another aspect of the present invention includes providing direct marketing wherein users on the network are targeted with direct marketing material and providers of the marketing content are charged for the service[[,]]. A further aspect of the present invention includes enabling client nodes to become affiliate servers nodes that deliver content to other client nodes, thus taking advantage of idle bandwidth. As an incentive, the owners of the affiliate servers may be paid a percentage of the fee charged for serving the files to the other client nodes.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 21 as follows:

If a firewall separates the publishing client node 14 from the receiving client node, then the server node 12 acts as a proxy for the receiving client node 14 and the file is sent through the server node 12 in step 128. In a preferred embodiment, any node in the network may serve as a proxy for a firewall-protected node, as described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/773,314, entitled "Method And System For Facilitating File Access From Firewall-Protected Client Nodes In A Peer-To-Peer Network, filed on Jan. 31, 2001, and hereby incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 16 as follows:

In conventional peer networks, if the file is downloaded from one node to another, and the first node logs-off during the transfer, then file delivery will fail. The present invention further ensures reliable delivery using multiple and partial file transfers. To download a file, the client node downloads different portions of the file from different ~~thus~~-nodes (e.g., downloading 1/3 of the file from three different nodes), and then reassembles the file upon receipt in step 139. If one node goes off-line, an alternate will be selected.